

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN FEBRUARY 2007

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in February was 2.2 million metric tons (Mt), which was 6% lower than in January, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Cumulative production in January and February was slightly higher than in same period of 2006.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in February was 2.3 Mt, a 10% decrease from that of January. Reported use of phosphate rock in January and February was slightly higher than in same period of 2006. U.S. producer stocks were 2% lower than in January and 10% lower than in February 2006.

Imports of phosphate rock were estimated based on U.S. Census Bureau figures and export data from the Moroccan producer. Morocco supplies more than 99% of the phosphate rock imported into the United States; however, the U.S. Census Bureau suppresses much of the phosphate rock data from Morocco.

Estimated apparent consumption for 2007, based on annualized use and trade data, was 32.6 Mt, the same as in 2006.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Sold and/or used	Ending stocks ²
2006:			
January-February	4,490	4,900	XX
February	1,970	2,230	6,370
March	2,570	2,370	6,500
April	2,570	2,570	6,540
May	3,000	2,540	7,000
June	2,590	2,510	7,260
July	2,540	2,590	6,600
August	2,800	2,660	6,750
September	2,470	2,460	6,750
October	2,530	2,950	6,210
November	2,060	2,070	6,210
December	2,470	2,570	6,120
January-December	30,100	30,200	XX
2007:			
January	2,340	2,590	5,880
February	2,200	2,320	5,750
Total	4,540	4,910	XX

XX Not applicable.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK¹

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value ²
2006:		
January-February	244	9,280
February	74	2,180
March	193	9,460
April	115	5,720
May	126	5,890
June	256	16,000
July	135	6,400
August	129	4,530
September	155	9,030
October	124	8,840
November	55	2,240
December	398	18,700
January-December	1,930	96,100
Total year ³	2,400	115,000
2007:		
January	62	3,800
February	57	2,360
Total	119	6,160

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

³Includes an estimate for data suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; data on the majority of phosphate rock imports from Morocco were suppressed by Census.

TABLE 3
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2005	2006	2007 ^{e, 1}
Marketable production	36.2	30.1	28.1
Sold or used by producers:	35.2	30.2	30.3
Yearend stocks	6.8	6.1	5.8
Imports for consumption ^e	2.6	2.4	2.3
Average value per ton	\$40.87	\$48.05	NA
Apparent consumption ^{e, 2, 3}	37.8	32.6	32.6

^eEstimated. NA Not available.

¹Annualized data.

²Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

³Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.